

Appl. No. 10/713,957
Amdt. dated April 20, 2006
Reply to Office action of January 27, 2006

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 5 of page 3 with the following amended paragraph:

Further, United States Patent Number DES 414,056 to Palm et al. discloses a Christmas tree collectable display stand. However, the Palm et al. '056 patent does not have electrical outlets inset into recessed shelves and flanges having electrical plugs allowing the tree to be secured and plugged in without external wiring.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 9 of page 3 with the following amended paragraph:

Further still, United States Patent Number 1,577,207 to Dieperink-Langereis discloses an artificial Christmas tree that ~~having~~ has ornamental wings, and a center post that has grooves which receive the inner edges of the wings. A shelf is located on the post and has removable interlocking engagement with the wings. However, the Dieperink-Langereis '207 patent does not have electrical outlets inset into recessed shelves and flanges having electrical plugs allowing the tree to be secured and plugged in without external wiring.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 15 of page 3 with the following amended paragraph:

Further yet, United States Patent Number 2,615,583 to Johnson discloses a display stand that has a base, an upright secured at its lower end to the base. The upright has at least one transverse slot joining its forward surface. The upright also having below the slot an opening projecting from front to rear. A shelf of lesser thickness than the distance between the upper and lower horizontal portions of the upright defining the slot. The shelf projecting forwardly from the upright and having a rear edge portion received

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within the slot. A bracket located at the forward side of the upright has a top surface extending laterally of the upright below the shelf. A bolt of smaller diameter than the opening passing through the bracket and opening ~~and vertically adjustable relative to the upright~~ and vertically adjustable relative to the upright and a nut cooperating with the bolt for securing the bracket frictionally into engagement with the upright and shelf after the bracket and bolt have been vertically adjusted on the upright. However, the Johnson '583 patent does not have electrical outlets inset into recessed shelves and flanges having electrical plugs allowing the tree to be secured and plugged in without external wiring.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 9 of page 6 with the following amended paragraph:

Numerous objects, features and advantages of the present embodiment of the invention will be readily apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art upon a reading of the following detailed description of presently preferred, but nonetheless illustrative, embodiments of the present embodiment of the invention when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings. In this respect, before explaining the current embodiment of the invention in detail, it is to be understood that the embodiment of the invention is not limited in its application to the details of construction and to the arrangements of the components set forth in the following description or illustrated in the drawings. The invention is capable of other embodiments and of being practiced and carried out in various ways. Also, it is to be understood that the phraseology and terminology employed herein are for the purpose of descriptions and should not be regarded as limiting.

Please replace the abstract beginning on line 3 of page 19 with the following amended paragraph:

A display tree for electrical ornaments has a plurality of support tubes that are connected to one another and support a plurality of disc-shaped shelves. Each support

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tube's upper end has a male electrical plug, and each support tube's lower end has a female electrical socket. Upper and lower flanges attached to the support tubes' upper and lower ends are received by recesses in the top side and bottom side shelves. The bottom side recess of the shelves has electrical contacts that connect electrical outlets in the top side of the shelves with the female electrical sockets. The electrical connection between the electrical outlets and the electrical contacts is disposed within the shelves.
When assembled, the electrical contacts are rendered inaccessible by the lower flanges. A male electrical plug is connected to the support tube upper end. A female electrical socket is connected to the support tube lower end. A flange electrical contact is electrically connected to the female electrical socket. The flange electrical contact is connected to the lower flange. A shelf electrical contact is connected to the shelf bottom side. The shelf electrical contact is for detachable connection to the flange electrical contact. A shelf electrical outlet is connected to the shelf top side. The shelf electrical outlet is electrically connected to the shelf electrical contact.